

# THE CHAMPION

VOL. 14

ARCADIA, FLORIDA, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 28, 1908.

No. 22

ated by Ft. Myers W. C. T. U.  
Washington said, "Not men but  
Uncloud the issue and  
votes that went to Gilchrist  
go to Stockton. These men  
not the issue it is alcohol.  
Gilchrist on Stockton's plat-  
and vice versa and we will  
men. Of the 46,000 votes  
the 19th a majority of 8,000 or  
dry; turn these to Stockton  
represents our issue and he is  
nominated. We say de-  
the licensed sale of all in-  
cants as beverages for the  
of home and state. That's  
Stockton. Mr. Gilchrist stands  
local option and high license  
means perpetuate this  
onous and destructive traffic.  
Gilchrist men clouded this  
by trumping up slanders  
Mr. Stockton, which were  
proven false. Mr. Gilchrist is  
ported by the whiskey interests  
Florida, which say we have no  
to prohibit the traffic. The  
reme court of the United States  
of the state says we have. In  
the United States Supreme  
court (a majority being Democrats)  
the "States had full power to  
hibit the traffic altogether."  
decision of the court was  
unanimous, notwithstanding the  
dealers were defended by  
Webster and Rufus Choat,  
ablest lawyers in America. In  
the United States Court made  
similar decision the majority be-  
Republicans. State Supreme  
courts have said that "The right  
sell liquor is not an inherent  
of a citizen of the United  
States is beyond cavil." Again,  
prohibition seeks to promote the  
moral welfare by prohibiting an  
excessive vice which is doing more  
disqualify men for self govern-  
ment than all other influences  
combined." They have charged  
traffic from 4-5 to 9-10 of the  
of the state.  
We give other reasons why we  
our fathers, husbands,  
and brothers to vote our be-  
l state dry.  
With prohibition by the state  
will have no county wet and  
elections which are so un-  
satisfactory annoying and ex-  
pensive.  
The wet counties so provoke  
by shipping their poisons on us  
in self defense we ought to  
the whole of Florida dry.  
outlaw liquor men have  
right it upon themselves. We  
for Mr. Stockton only because  
for us and Mr. Gilchrist is  
just us.  
FORT MYERS W. C. T. U.  
May 26, 1908.

**Ladies' Friday Musicales**  
The Ladies' Friday Musicales  
with Mrs. Mary H. Smith,  
May, May 22, 1908. The  
program was rendered:  
Solo, "Reverie of an Exile," ...  
Mrs. Mary H. Smith.  
Solo, "Down in the Old Cherry  
 Orchard," ... Bryan  
Mrs. W. B. Robertson  
Solo, "The Maiden's Dream," ...  
Mrs. R. E. Brown.  
Solo, "The Rose in the Garden," ...  
Mrs. T. B. King  
adjourned to meet with  
J. H. Treadwell, Friday,  
May 29, 1908, at five o'clock.  
MRS. C. Y. CRAWFORD,  
Secretary.

The Bristol Herald-Courier doesn't  
say that if Opportunity should  
knock at Judge Parker's door again he  
will rush out and kick it off the  
porch. Possibly not, but the Demo-  
cratic party would doubtless kick  
anybody into the middle of next  
month.

## Jacksonville Ministerial Alliance to the People of Florida

The following document was prepared and is being signed by the Ministerial Alliance and others of Jacksonville and will be sent throughout the state. It is an appeal to the Christian people of the state, and should be read and pondered by every Godfearing voter of the state.

### To The God-Fearing People of Florida:

A condition now confronts the people of Florida, the like of which has never been known in this State. Many of us are not either politicians or political partisans, but all of the undersigned feel it their patriotic duty to disregard all existing party or factional affiliations, and to call upon all good citizens of Florida having the right to vote in the coming Primary Election, June 16, to lay aside, for the time being at least, all partisan feelings and join all the God-fearing, order-loving, law-abiding people in one united effort to prevent the otherwise possible domination of the government of Florida by the liquor dealers of our fair State.

We respectfully state the following as facts worthy of the prayerful consideration of the people of Florida.

The Democratic Primary Elections in Florida unquestionably and absolutely fix the status of all State and county governments. In them are chosen all of our executive, legislative and judicial officers. In these are decided the governmental status so far as law, order, peaceable existence and enforcement of laws are concerned. Those who wish government to be controlled by the moral elements in society for the moral welfare of the community must here vote for those persons who stand for the moral welfare of the people. Those opposing moral government and interested in debauching the people never fail to be active in their own interests.

Never before in the history of Florida have the representatives of the saloon interests so openly defied the moral elements of society and so boldly organized to seize control of the government of the State and of so many of the counties.

Never before in the history of any Southern State have the saloon keepers so openly organized and raised corruption funds by openly assessing every saloon in the State and sent authorized agents to the great distilleries and brewers of the United States soliciting contributions from outside this state to be used to influence the voters of the state in the election of a governor, legislators and other officers who will be under obligations to them and who will owe to the saloon men their election to office.

It is hard to conceive of such a case but it is an absolutely evident fact, and a fact not even attempted to be hidden, but is openly avowed, that the saloon interests in Florida have been thoroughly organized, and have assessed each saloon of the state and have collected in addition thereto enormous sums of money from distillers and brewers beyond the limits of the state, and have concentrated their support upon one candidate for governor of the state and upon candidates for the state senate and house of representatives, and for the offices that have to do with the enforcement of laws intended to regulate the sale of liquors.

The people of Florida could not believe the extent of the work of the liquor dealers until they come face to face in contact with it at the recent primary election, but the conditions then disclosed should now arouse every patriotic citizen of Florida to a thorough realization that unless they act together, and act promptly and vigorously the saloon interests of Florida, backed by the entire liquor interests of the United States will elect for four years as governor of Florida, the man whom they have openly supported with enormous expenditures of money, and who, if elected, will beyond possible question owe his election to their support.

We do not wish to say one word against the character of their candidate, Mr. Gilchrist, and he is, of course, receiving the votes of many patriotic citizens, who cannot and will not approve of the methods used, but no one can deny that if elected, he will absolutely owe his election to the saloon interests, without whose assistance he would not have come anywhere near being elected.

As citizens of Duval county we can speak from personal observation and knowledge of the recent primary election in this county, where, there were, perhaps more open, more active and more effective than elsewhere because of the fact that there are more and greater saloon interest, here, where we have not only our former number of liquor dealers, but where we now have concentrated many whiskey houses recently forced out of Georgia and Alabama.

We know the facts recently made clear here, and we appeal to the good citizens of Florida to make clear beyond any possible question June 16th, that the saloon interests cannot dominate the people of Florida.

In the name of morality and self respect we appeal to every voter at that election to answer by his vote whether he is willing that the governor of Florida, or any other officer in Florida shall owe his election to the organized work and monetary contribution of the saloon keepers.

The governor of Florida should not be an ungrateful man. Few men elected to office fail to recognize throughout their official life their debt of gratitude to those to whom they know and the public know they owe their election.

The candidate supported by the saloon interests will owe his election to those who elected him and must be grateful to them.

Whether they wish it or not, the lines are drawn with absolute distinctness between the candidates supported by the saloons so enthusiastically and the candidates opposed by the saloons so bitterly.

Only a few months ago a petition was circulated in this county calling for a local option election. Mr. Jno. N. C. Stockton was one of the signers of that petition. He was invited to speak at temperance meetings in behalf of that petition. He did so, bravely declaring himself on the side of temperance and against the saloons. The saloon men at once marked him, just as they marked every other man who dared oppose the saloon interests.

No man's character is safe from vicious attacks when he dares to stand up against the saloon interests. And so because Mr. Stockton dares to oppose the saloon interests and to denounce their efforts to control the government of the state his character has been attacked most viciously for the sole purpose of enabling the liquor dealers to defeat him and to elect their candidate.

As Mr. Stockton's neighbors we know his convictions and sentiments as to the pending issue. And based on this knowledge we are prepared to add our guarantee to his pledge that he will administer the laws controlling the liquor traffic exactly as the sovereign people give them to the governor.

The open attempt of the liquor dealers to control the government of Florida absolutely fixes the issues of the coming primary. It is no longer a question of politics. It is no longer a question of the existence of saloons in Florida.

It is now a question of morals. It is now a question of self respect. It is now a question whether the governor of Florida shall be a man owes his election to the Godfearing, selfrespecting, patriotic people of Florida.

It is now the duty of all voters to make sure by their active work and their votes that the governor of Florida shall not for four years owe his election to the saloons, but that his debt of gratitude shall be to the patriotic, good people.

It is now your duty to make sure that the officers of the various counties shall know that the governor does not owe his election to the liquor interests. It must be made clear that the saloons cannot control the state of Florida.

We beg leave to request that this is not a political appeal. It is an appeal to the good citizenship of Florida to actively assist in protecting our state from the clutches of the saloon keepers.

Every Godfearing patriotic man, woman and child in Florida should be made to understand that the saloons have openly challenged the moral elements of society in Florida, and should become at once vigorously active in the fight to which they are so brazenly challenged.

They should appeal to every voter regardless of how he has voted to array himself against the domination of the state by the saloons. Vigorous action by all who oppose saloon domination will prove to the liquor interests that they cannot prevail.

We regret more than we can say the necessity for this action, but there appears to be no alternative unless we are to submit to saloon domination, which is intolerable.

We who unite in this communication are not moved by personal considerations for Mr. Stockton or any other man. We seek no offices or rewards of any kind. We desire above all things to save our state from a deep disgrace and our institutions from a shock which threatens their destruction. Yet as his neighbors, knowing him well, we repeat that we unite our guarantee to his pledge to the people that he will administer all laws regulating precisely as the people give them to him.

SIGNED.

### Stockton Must Win

Stockton failing of a nomination in the first primary, we must now recognize that we will have arrayed against us the most corrupt influences in the world. The whiskey men who put their trade above home and humanity, will leave nothing unturned to defeat John N. C. Stockton. What do these men who live on downfall of men and the disgrace of women, care for all the misery they bring into this world, so long as they gain. Remember my countrymen that they will use the lowest foreign element and if they could would not hesitate to make use of the negro to keep the whiskey traffic in Florida. Let every man, woman and child who love the better side of life stand true to Stockton. In every way he is better equipped for the office than Gilchrist, and he represents the best interests of men, women and children.

If the Anglo-Saxon would remain the strongest race, they must take from our people the greatest evil that has come into this world to destroy man. A free use of whiskey takes from a man his physical, mental and moral force.

Let us give the best of our lives to the election of Stockton and thus add to the best interests of the people and state.—Bartow Record.

### From Jacksonville

JACKSONVILLE, May 23.

MRS. NEVA CHILD,

EDITOR CHAMPION.

MY DEAR MADAM: Just a few lines to congratulate you on your splendid fight for morality.

If the sober, moral element of DeSoto county could have seen the debauchery, corruption and use of liquor for Gilchrist DeSoto county would be ashamed to claim him as its "Favorite Son".

Gilchrist's distribution headquarters were at Blum's. Sims and Hanne's. Gilchrist literature and a great amount of money was given out in order to defeat Stockton for governor.

I made it my business here to make a personal investigation and having when in DeSoto county noticed your splendid fight, thought I would give you the facts.

I was informed by a wholesale liquor dealer today that the "Association" had sent out 2,000 jugs of whiskey for Gilchrist and that the National Brewers Association had contributed \$42,000 to Gilchrist's fund.

Stockton's forces have gone to work and he will win. He had no organization in the first primary.

With best wishes,

Yours respectfully,

REV. G. B. BAKER.

### Thanks

EDITOR CHAMPION: Allow me space in your valuable columns to thank the voters of DeSoto county for their support on May 19th. I feel that it was the confidence of my friends with their efforts that nominated me. Words fail to express my appreciation, but if fairness, care and painstaking through my administration will count, I hope to reciprocate all help and favors during the campaign.

Very respectfully,

H. G. MURPHY.